

REMARKS

Request for Extension of Time

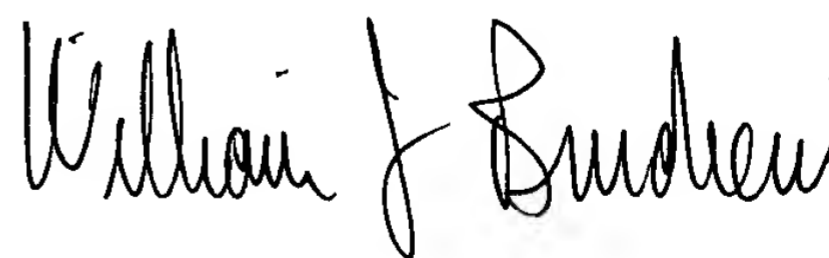
Applicants, through their undersigned attorney, respectfully request a two--month extension of time for responding to the Communication mailed October 6, 2003 in the above-identified patent application. The time for response is thus extended up to and including January 6, 2003.

The amendments to the specification are intended to comply with the sequence listing rules, correcting what was specified by the Examiner in the Office Action. No new matter has been added.

The amendments to the claims are intended to comply with the sequence listing rules, correcting what was specified by the Examiner in the Office Action and to put them in a form closer to that at the end of prosecution of the parent application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4650. A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO Reg. No. 31,712

January 6, 2004

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